

CLAIMS

We claim:

1. An automated banking machine apparatus comprising:

housing;

5 a cash dispenser extending in the housing;

a user interface in supporting connection with the housing, the user interface including at least one input and at least one output device, wherein the cash dispenser is operative to dispense cash selectively responsive to inputs to the at least one input device;

10 wherein the at least one input device includes a card reader having an associated card reader slot and adapted to accept magnetic stripe cards input by users of the machine;

wherein the user interface includes a fascia portion in adjacent surrounding relation of the card reader slot, and wherein the slot has a transverse width, and
15 further comprising a vertically extending projection extending on the fascia portion and partially spanning the transverse width of the slot.

2. The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the vertically extending projection terminates vertically generally flush with the slot.

3. The apparatus according to claim 2 wherein magnetic stripes on cards being read by the card reader pass longitudinally through the slot in a stripe area, and wherein the vertically
5 extending slot extends generally vertically flush with the slot in the stripe area.

4. The apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the fascia portion includes a recessed pocket, and wherein the slot is positioned in the pocket.

5. The apparatus according to claim 4 wherein the pocket includes a first wall, and wherein the vertically extending projection extends vertically from the first wall.

10 6. The apparatus according to claim 5 wherein the vertically extending projection is elongated longitudinally and extends generally vertically from the first wall.

7. The apparatus according to claim 6 wherein the vertically extending projection increases in the extent to which it projects from the first wall with longitudinal proximity to the slot.

8. The apparatus according to claim 7 wherein the vertically extending projection is
15 bounded outwardly from the first wall by a generally arcuate surface.

9. The apparatus according to claim 8 wherein the first wall generally bounds a bottom area of the pocket, and wherein the vertically extending projection extends vertically upward from the first wall.

10. The apparatus according to claim 9 wherein the first wall is generally arcuate in configuration.

11. The apparatus according to claim 10 and further comprising a housing member bounding the slot, and at least one radiation emitting device positioned in supporting connection with the housing member.

12. The apparatus according to claim 11 and further comprising an upper wall, wherein the upper wall bounds an upper area of the pocket.

13. The apparatus according to claim 12 and further comprising a further vertically extending projection extending from the upper wall and adjacent the slot.

14. The apparatus according to claim 13 wherein the further vertically extending projection partially spans the transverse width of the slot.

15. The apparatus according to claim 14 wherein the further vertically extending projection increases in the extent to which it projects from the upper wall with longitudinal proximity to the slot.

16. The apparatus according to claim 15 wherein the further vertically extending projection is bounded outwardly by a generally arcuate surface.

17. The apparatus according to claim 16 wherein the upper wall is generally arcuate in contour.

18. The apparatus according to claim 17 wherein the generally arcuate surface bounding the further vertically extending projection terminates adjacent and vertically disposed of the slot.

19. The apparatus according to claim 18 and further comprising at least one radiation sensing device adjacent the slot such that positioning an unauthorized card reading device adjacent the slot causes change in at least one property of radiation from the at least one emitting device that is sensed by the at least one radiation sensing device.

20. The apparatus according to claim 19 and further comprising at least one controller in operative connection with the at least one radiation sensing device, and wherein the at least one controller is operative to generate at least one signal responsive to sensing an unauthorized card reading device.

21. The apparatus according to claim 20 wherein the at least one controller is operative to cause the apparatus to carry out a currency dispensing transaction, and wherein the at least one controller is operative to cause the at least one radiation emitting device to initiate emitting radiation during at least one of a transaction step in which a card is to be inserted in the slot and a transaction step in which a card is to be taken from the slot.

22. The apparatus according to claim 21 wherein the at least one controller is operative responsive to sensing an unauthorized card reading device to provide a message through at least one output device of the user interface.

23. The apparatus according to claim 21 wherein the at least one emitting device is operative to surroundingly illuminate the slot.

24. The apparatus according to claim 21 wherein the at least one sensing device and the at least one emitting device are mounted in supporting relation with the housing member.

25. The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the vertically extending projection extends on a first side of the slot, and further comprising a further vertically extending projection extending on an opposed side of the slot from the first side.

26. The apparatus according to claim 25 wherein the further vertically extending projection partially spans the transverse width of the slot on the opposed side.

27. The apparatus according to claim 26 wherein magnetic stripes read by the card reader pass longitudinally through the slot in a stripe area, and wherein at least one of the vertically extending projection and further vertically extending projection extend vertically flush with the slot in the stripe area.